



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 6  
1201 ELM STREET, SUITE 500  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

March 15, 2022

Ashley Forbes, Director  
Radioactive Materials Division  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. F  
Austin, TX 78753

Dear Ms. Forbes:

This letter transmits EPA's end-of-year evaluation (EOY) of the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program implemented by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for State Fiscal Year 2021 (FY2021).

TCEQ continued to effectively administer their UIC program during the COVID-19 pandemic in FY2021. EPA Region 6 would like to thank you and your staff for your work in protecting underground sources of drinking water from underground injection activities under your authority. We appreciate the program's continued attention to issues such as pre-injection unit permitting revisions, authorization of injecting unappropriated water into aquifer storage and recovery or aquifer recharge wells, and your continued efforts under the MOU with the Texas Railroad Commission. We are also impressed with your continued efforts toward data reporting, recordkeeping improvements, and continued developmental practices. As we move forward, an increased focus on Class VI Carbon Sequestration and Capture projects, in addition to Environmental Justice issues in the national UIC program may affect TCEQ's UIC program, and EPA suggests close collaboration between our staffs as more of these projects come forward.

We thank you and your staff for your efforts for your hard work and dedication in these challenging times. If you have any questions, please call James Brown at (214) 665-3175. If your staff have specific questions about UIC grant performance, please contact Michael Vaughan at (214) 665-7313 or Eric Anderson at (214) 665-3177 for questions regarding EPA's program oversight.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Maguire", is positioned above the printed name.

Charles W. Maguire  
Director  
Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Carol Dye, TCEQ, Manager, UIC Permits Section, w/encl.  
Lorrie Council, TCEQ, UIC Program Liaison, UIC Permits Section, w/encl.